

Procedures For Nominating And Electing Vestry Members

Announcements. The opportunity to stand for election to the Vestry will be announced and publicized within the Parish, beginning approximately October 1, through all practical means available, including Connections, bulletin announcements, and e-Connections. To the extent possible, each announcement will emphasize how to obtain a written application and the due date for the submission of such applications. The Vestry will also give consideration to hosting one or more informal gatherings (e.g., in the nature of “coffee and conversation”) as a comfortable forum for interested persons to learn more about Vestry service.

Applications. Any person who wishes to run for election to the Vestry must complete a written application and submit that application by the due date, except as outlined below with respect to nomination from the floor.

Minimum Qualifications. To be eligible to run for the Vestry, an applicant must answer “yes” to all of the following questions. Any issue concerning eligibility under these criteria will be resolved by the Vestry, after recommendation by the Nominating Committee.

- a) Have you been baptized?
- b) Do you regularly attend worship services at St. Paul's?
- c) Did you make a monetary contribution to St. Paul's during 2010?
- d) Have you made a pledge for 2011?
- e) During the past 12 months, have you been involved in a ministry at or on behalf of St. Paul's?

Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will consist of the Rector, the Wardens, and the other members of the Vestry whose terms will expire at the next annual meeting. If the number of timely written applications by eligible persons equals four or more, those eligible persons who have submitted timely written applications will comprise the slate for the election, and the Nominating Committee will not seek or accept additional applicants. If the number of timely written applications by eligible persons equals three or fewer, then the Nominating Committee will seek the number of additional eligible applicants required for the total number of eligible persons on the slate to equal (but not exceed) four. In addition, and notwithstanding the foregoing procedures, the Nominating Committee will seek the number of eligible applicants such that the slate allows for the election of a Vestry, two-thirds of whose members have been confirmed, as required by the Parish By-Laws.

Statements to the Parish. Each person slated to run for election to the Vestry will be invited to provide a written comment for publication in Connections, and other appropriate publications, and to speak to members of the Parish at a time made available for comments by the candidates (e.g., the forum). Only candidates listed on the slate will be entitled to provide such written and oral comments to the Parish.

Nominations from the floor; advance registration. Any member of the Parish may nominate himself or herself, or another person, to stand for election to the Vestry. For such a nomination to be effective, and to be considered at the annual meeting:

- (a) the nomination must be registered in a writing received by a member of the Nominating Committee not less than 10 days before the annual meeting;
- (b) the nominee must be eligible as defined above; and
- (c) if not a self-nomination, the nominee must confirm to the Nominating Committee that he or she is willing and committed to serve if elected.

Any person so nominated from the floor shall have the opportunity to provide oral comments at the annual meeting, before the vote is taken.

Voting. To be considered valid, a ballot cast in the Vestry election at the annual meeting must properly indicate votes for four eligible candidates, and must not contain votes for more or fewer than four eligible candidates. Any ballot not meeting this requirement will be deemed invalid and will not be counted.